



Nick feeling ill while watching a man get a tooth extracted. YUCK!



Teaching juggling to PNG kids



New lens being put in after a cataract was removed



## Sea-ing change in the South Pacific

Four weeks ago, a very tanned Nick returned from life on the Coral Sea with a camera bag, saltwater-smelling apparel and more stories than he could count. When he walked off the plane to greet me in the Townsville airport, I knew that he had witnessed something amazing. As soon as we arrived home, he began to talk about what the medical ship had seen in just a few short weeks.

This past September, Nick arrived on Papua New Guinea's shores to film the ship's arrival in the Gulf region. As he stood behind a camera on the beach, the YWAM Medical Ship sailed slowly into the harbour of Port Moresby. Thousands of Papua New Guineans lined the shore, waving and cheering

the ship's arrival. That particular morning was extremely significant. It was the weekend of the Hiri Moale Festival, which is an annual celebration of the nation's unique culture. This year, the YWAM Medical Ship was the honoured guest.

After a short stay in Port Moresby, the ship and its crew (including my strong-stomached husband) headed up the estuaries into the remote regions of the Gulf. Here was where they would witness miracles. In fact, that the ship was even able to get to some of these areas was a miracle in itself. It served as more than a floating medical vessel, but a beacon of hope for those who'd thought they'd been forgotten.

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One of Nick's first visits into the villages brought him to a man, Karara, a WWII veteran. As a cook in the war, he worked alongside many Australian soldiers. But as well as going deaf, old age and poor health care had caused Karara to become nearly blind, due to cataracts in both eyes. When his family and friends heard that a medical ship was docked near the village, they brought the veteran from his hut to see if the YWAM team could help. House ridden for years, a very weary Karara and his family traveled to the ship to receive immediate eye care.



Karara after eye surgery

The next day, Nick and his team visited Karara's hut to film his reaction when he removed his bandages. He was no longer weary - he was healed! The old man could not contain his excitement and his family laughed and cheered along with him. He waved at his daughters and pointed to far off items, signaling to his loved ones that he could see! The YWAM team continued to talk with the family, praying and encouraging them. To witness this story yourself, watch Nick's short film at: [www.nickandsarajane.com](http://www.nickandsarajane.com).



Karara the next day after the eye patch came off

## Day to Day

On the whole, we as the Vs are doing well in Australia. I'm leading a school for musicians at the moment and am seeing huge growth in my students. I would have never guessed that I would be teaching other musicians, but here I am! Our students are very talented and have hearts that want to see change in their world. I would love your prayer for wisdom as I plan their outreach (which starts January 2nd), help them with their songs and see them become a band!

We are also preparing for yet another warm Christmas and would very much love to have one with snow soon! Please throw a snowball for us this winter and when you drink hot chocolate by a fire somewhere, know that we are missing you!

Thanks for all your emails and comments! Love always, Nick and Sara V.

We appreciate your continued prayer as we start to think about what the future holds for us next year. We don't know much as of yet, but are listening intently as God leads us, step by step.

Thank you for friendship and we hope that we get to see many of you early next year as we plan to visit North America sometime in the Spring!

Please visit [www.nickandsarajane.com](http://www.nickandsarajane.com) to see our weekly video updates, to sign up to receive our emails or to join our support team.



## Contact Us

Email:  
[nickv@ywamrto.org](mailto:nickv@ywamrto.org)  
[sarav@ywamrto.org](mailto:sarav@ywamrto.org)

Mail:  
 PO Box 6221  
 Townsville, QLD  
 4810  
 Australia

Phone:  
 +61 403 902 058  
 1-631-676-1233  
 (this # will ring us in Aus. You only have to pay long distance to USA)

Skype:  
 greatwitenorth  
 sarajane5182

Flickr:  
[flickr.com/photos/nickv/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/nickv/)

Web:  
[nickandsarajane.com](http://nickandsarajane.com)  
[savingsparrow.com](http://savingsparrow.com)

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